UNITED NATIONS

General Assembly

FIFTY-FIRST SESSION

Official Records

SECOND COMMITTEE
36th meeting
held on
Monday, 25 November 1996
at 10 a.m.
New York

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 36th MEETING

Chairman: Mr. HAMBURGER (Netherlands)

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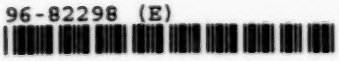
Distr. GENERAL
A/C.2/51/SR.36
9 September 1997
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: FRENCH

96-82298 (E)



The meeting was called to order at 10.10 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 95: SECTORAL POLICY QUESTIONS (continued)

(b) FOOD AND SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on food and sustainable agricultural development (A/C.2/51/L.38)

1. Mr. ACUÑA (Costa Rica), introducing the draft resolution on behalf of the Group of 77, China, Colombia and the States Members of the United Nations that were members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries, said that the draft dealt specifically with the World Food Summit held recently in Rome. The participants had agreed to take steps to reduce by half, over 20 years, the number of persons suffering from hunger. The Plan of Action adopted at the Summit assigned primary responsibility for food security to Governments and urged them to cooperate actively with each other and with United Nations bodies, international financial institutions, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the public and private sectors in efforts to eradicate hunger. The Plan of Action contained a number of commitments whose implementation should lead to a substantial alleviation of the problem of hunger. All parties concerned must now take action to follow up the Summit. In its resolution 50/109, the General Assembly invited the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization to submit to it, at its fifty-second session, a report on the outcome of the World Food Summit. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.38 reiterated that invitation and urged the international community and relevant bodies within the United Nations system to cooperate in the implementation of the Plan of Action.

The meeting was suspended at 10.20 a.m. and resumed at 10.30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM 12: REPORT OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL (continued)

Draft resolution on institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Global Programme of Action for the Protection of the Marine Environment from Land-based Activities (A/C.2/51/L.2)

2. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), Vice-Chairman, said that the informal consultations held on the draft resolution had resulted in a consensus and that no amendments had been made to the text.

3. Mr. MURPHY (Ireland), speaking on behalf of the European Union, drew attention to paragraph 8 of the draft resolution, in which the General Assembly called upon the United Nations Environment Programme to take various measures. As there was no reference to any financial implications of those measures, he took it that the proposed projects would be financed from existing resources.

4. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.2 was adopted.

5. Ms. WILLIAMS-MANIGAULT (United States of America) welcomed the adoption of the draft resolution. In paragraph 45 (a) of its decision 4/15, contained in document E/1996/28-E/CN.17/1996/38, the Commission on Sustainable Development

had recommended that there should be a periodic review of the marine environment, the results of which should be considered by the General Assembly under an agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea". Her delegation supported that recommendation.

AGENDA ITEM 94: MACROECONOMIC POLICY QUESTIONS (continued)

(c) TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on the transit environment in the landlocked States in Central Asia and their transit developing neighbours (A/C.2/51/L.25)

6. Mr. RAMOUL (Algeria), Vice-Chairman, referring to the informal consultations held on the draft resolution, said that a few editorial amendments had been made to the text. In the third preambular paragraph, the words "these countries" should be replaced by the words "newly independent and developing landlocked States". In the fifth preambular paragraph, the words "Proposals for the development of a ..." should be deleted. Lastly, footnote 3/ should read: TD/B/42(1)/11.

7. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.25, as orally amended, was adopted.

8. Mrs. LAWLOR (United States of America) said that, while her delegation had joined in the consensus, it had some reservations regarding paragraph 5 of the resolution, in which the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development to prepare a report on the implementation of the resolution. There was no need to draw up a new report on the question; the task was not a matter of priority and the Conference's already limited resources should instead be used to fund the implementation of activities.

AGENDA ITEM 96: SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION (continued)

(a) IMPLEMENTATION AND FOLLOW-UP TO MAJOR CONSENSUS AGREEMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT (continued)

Draft resolution on implementation of the commitments and policies agreed upon in the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade (A/C.2/51/L.13 and L.32)

9. Mr. DJABBARY (Islamic Republic of Iran), Vice-Chairman, introduced draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.32, which he was submitting on the basis of informal consultations held on draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.13.

10. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.32 was adopted.

11. Mr. DUNLAVEY (United States of America) said that his delegation had joined in the consensus but that the best of intentions would count for nothing unless they were accompanied by the adoption of appropriate measures at national level.

Trade could not truly bring prosperity unless a country's economy was in good shape. The implementation of sound monetary and budgetary policies helped to control inflation and stabilize exchange rates, and a transparent regulatory and licensing regime prompted enterprise and investment. Lastly, the abolition of subsidies and other market-distorting mechanisms allowed countries to benefit from comparative advantages.

12. Draft resolution A/C.2/51/L.13 was withdrawn.

The meeting rose at 10.55 a.m.